

**SONG-BROWN FAMILY PHYSICIAN TRAINING PROGRAM  
SITE VISIT EVALUATION REVIEW**

REGISTERED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM: College of the Canyons, ADN Program

Date of Site Visit: May 12, 2008

Site Review Staff: Terrie Smith, Program Analyst and Manuela Lachica, Program Director

Names and Titles of Persons Interviewed:

Sue Albert, Dean of Allied Health, Program Director,

Glenda Schneider, RN, MSN, Newhall Memorial Hospital,

Valerie Malinoski, Faculty Member

Site visit questions relate to the Song-Brown Family Physician Training Act Standards for Registered Nursing Education Programs, established by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission, pursuant to Health and Safety Code 128200, et seq. Each training program standard is presented in italics:

**Section I. *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Song-Brown Family Physician Training Act (hereinafter "the Act") shall be operated by an accredited California School of Nursing or shall be approved by the Regents of the University of California or by the Trustees of the California State University and Colleges, or shall be approved by the Board of Registered Nursing pursuant to Section 2834-2837, Article 8, Chapter 6, Div. 2, of the Business and Professions Code, or the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and that is approved by the Board of Registered Nursing.***

The following questions relate to **Section I** of the Training Program Standards:

1. Is the education program operated by one of the following entities?

An accredited California School of Nursing? Yes ☒ No ☐

2. Has the program been approved by one of the following entities?

The Board of Registered Nursing? Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

The Board of Governors of the CA Community Colleges? Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

The Trustees of the California State University? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

The Regents of the University of California? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

Comments: College of the Canyons is also accredited by the National League for Nursing.

3. What is the NCLEX past rate? 83%

4. How many students do you train each year? Admitting 50–60 Fall, 40-50 spring, 30-40 core; currently there are 257 students enrolled in the program.

**Section II. *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Act shall include a component of education in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, or rural communities, and shall be organized to prepare registered nursing services in such neighborhoods and communities.***

The following questions relate to **Section II** of the Education Program Standards:

1. Does the education program include a component of training in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic areas, or rural communities (hereinafter “component of training”) that is organized to prepare registered nurses for services in such neighborhoods and communities?

Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, provide comments: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Describe the location of the training program’s “component of training”?

*Check which category(ies) apply:*

- ☒ Medically underserved multicultural community  
☒ Lower socioeconomic area  
☐ Rural area  
☐ None of the above

Comments: College of the Canyons is located in the Santa Clarita Valley. It is part of Los Angeles County. Over 40% of the students come from outside our area code and reside in such places as the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles, Glendale, and Ventura. College of the Canyons uses multiple clinical sites located in Sylmar, San Fernando, West Hills, Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks and Santa Clarita. The program uses community clinics for the community experience.

3. Street address and zip code of “component of training”: Henry Mayo, Newhall Memorial Hospital, 23845 McBean Parkway, Valencia, CA 31355 and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, 14445 Olive View Drive., Sylmar, CA 991342

***For OSHPD staff use – geographic location of “component of education”:***

Census tract:: \_\_\_\_\_ MSSA: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Are all of the program’s students required to spend part of their education in patient care in the “component of training”? Yes ☒ No ☐

Did the site review include a visit to the "component of education"?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Comments: The site visit included a visit to the Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital where students rotate on the medical/surgical floors. Two students were interviewed that were at the site training. The students told us that they liked the variety of patients in the hospital, the 12 hour shifts (3<sup>rd</sup> semester only), the College of the Canyons faculty and the opportunity to train at other clinical components.

5. Check all applicable categories that describe the "component of education"?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Federally Qualified Health Center or Look-alike

Yes ☐ No ☒

Community Health Center (Section 330)

Yes ☐ No ☒

Rural Health Clinic (P.L. 95-210)

Yes ☒ No ☐

Government-Owned/Operated Facility

Yes ☒ No ☐

other (describe): County facilities

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section II of the Standards (optional): College of the Canyons uses several facilities that fall into the Unmet Need category.

**Section III. *Appropriate strategies shall be developed by each education institution receiving funds under the Act to encourage Registered Nurses who are educated in the education program funded by the Act, to enter into practice in areas of unmet priority need for primary care family physicians within California as defined by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (hereinafter referred to as "areas of need"). Such strategies shall incorporate the following elements:***

- A. *An established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess characteristics which would suggest a predisposition to practice in areas of need, and who express a commitment to serve in areas of need***
- B. *An established counseling and placement program designed to encourage education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need.***
- C. *A program component such as a preceptorship experience in an area of need, which will enhance the potential of education program graduates to practice in such an area.***

**The following questions relate to Section III of the Education Program Standards:**

- 1) Does the program have an established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess the following characteristics?

- a) A predisposition to practice in areas of need? Yes ☐ No ☒  
b) Who express a commitment to serve in areas of need? Yes ☐ No ☒

Comments: As a California Community College ADN program, College of the Canyons just received permission to screen applicants. The screening process is still under discussion. However, with the new merit based admissions criteria students are given remediation to meet the criteria so that they may have a better chance to succeed and are allowed into the program. To be considered for entrance all pre-requisites must be completed with a "C" grade or higher. Students are required to take a state approved nursing assessment test. Students must rank at or above the average composite percentage for each area tested to be eligible for admission into the program. All nursing students are required to complete clinical experiences at clinical training sites located in areas of unmet needs.

- 2) Check all applicable categories that describe the established procedure referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | (a) Mission statement speaks to graduate deployment                                 |
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (b) Website emphasizes underserved areas, populations                               |
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (c) Promotion of mission in interviews of training program applicants               |
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (d) Weighting of underserved goals affecting ranking of applicants                  |
| Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | (e) Special emphasis on recruiting registered nursing students from local community |
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (f) Developing core faculty with experience in underserved practices                |
| Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | (g) Formally promoting registered nursing careers in high schools, colleges         |

Other (describe): The College of the Canyons philosophy states that they will create relationships within the businesses and social agencies. The college demonstrates this with job fairs where businesses, hospitals, clinics and prisons come to recruit their students. The students are given time off from class to attend the job fairs. As a California Community College they currently do not rank or interview students applying to the nursing programs. The college encourages their students to take the nurse aid course to learn more about the California Health Care System. Most of the college faculty comes from the Santa Clarita and surrounding areas. The faculty has all worked in areas that experiences health care shortages. The entire faculty participates in outreach programs to the local high schools. College of the Canyons is not allowed to outreach to high schools outside of the school's boundary.

- 3) Does the program have an established counseling and placement program designed to encourage nursing education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Does the program provide any type of support services for students?

- ☒ NCLEX Preparation -- Define the nature of your NCLEX preparation in space provided below.
- ☒ Skills Lab
- ☒ Tutoring
- ☒ Mentoring
- ☒ Safety Issue

College of the Canyons has the NCLEX review posted on the computers, along with the RHORC review. The Program Director is working with a Test Review company to charge one price rather than \$400 a student.

Are these services free to the students?

Yes ☒ No ☐

- 4) Check all applicable categories that describe the established counseling and placement program referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | (a) Faculty advisors/hospital management promote practice opportunities    |
| Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | (b) Coordination with NHSC federal/state loan repayment programs           |
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (c) Coordination with community physicians in recruiting program graduates |
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (d) A program matching registered nurses with underserved areas            |

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section III of the Standards (optional): The nursing program has professional days where representatives from community hospitals, prisons, armed forces, and cancer units among others come to discuss their roles in the health care system. The Program Director's responsibility is to greet each incoming class and to discuss the need for quality care in the community hospitals. As the students get ready to graduate they will be reminded of the needs of the community and the advantages of working at the hospitals in the region. The region is in Los Angeles County, an area of unmet need and a Registered Nursing shortage.

**The following are general questions relating to the administration of the Song-Brown Registered Nursing Education Program:**

1. Do you have any concerns about any of the following processes established for the administration of the Song-Brown Act?

- |   |                              |  |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| a) The applications for Song-Brown funds:           | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) The oral presentations to the Commission:        | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) The contract process:                            | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) The invoice process:                             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Staff's ability to provide technical assistance: | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

2. Is there any information about the Registered Nursing Education Program not covered by the above questions that should be noted or included with this site visit report?

If yes, please comment: The Program Director stated that they have worked very hard to use the grant funds judiciously and to use them to prepare our students to be outstanding nurses. Song-Brown funds have been used to provide retention services for students to increase their opportunity for success. The faculty work and live in LA County, which is an area of unmet need. Students receive a lot of experience and exposure to the diversity of the County's population and the regions need. College of the Canyons is very grateful for the Song-Brown funds; it has provided them with the ability to meet the critical nursing shortage.